



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION  
2015-48A

Kim Glazier, Executive Director  
Oklahoma Board of Nursing  
2915 N. Classen Blvd., Ste. 524  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106

October 15, 2015

Dear Executive Director Glazier:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding agency action that the Oklahoma Board of Nursing intends to take in Board case 3.168.16. Under a settlement agreement, a licensee will voluntarily surrender a license for two years. Afterward, prior to reinstatement, the agreement will require the licensee to complete classes in nursing law, nursing ethics, and critical thinking along with payment of a \$500 fine. In early 2014, the licensee forged or caused to be forged a signature on a return-to-work authorization after the licensee's own workplace injury. The authorization described continuing treatment and diagnosis information. The licensee also removed a coworker's purse containing controlled dangerous substances at another employer's place of business a little over two months later. On at least one occasion the licensee admitted taking the purse but stated it was a mistake.

The Oklahoma Nursing Practice Act, 59 O.S.2011 & Supp.2014, §§ 567.1–567.20, authorizes the Board to impose discipline for nurses are “[f]ail[] to adequately care for patients or to conform to the minimum standards of acceptable nursing . . . that, in the opinion of the Board, unnecessarily exposes a patient or other person to risk of harm,” 59 O.S.Supp.2014, § 567.8(B)(3). The action seeks to ensure that patients are not placed in danger from being in the charge of a nurse with a proclivity toward violent conduct by requiring additional education and evaluation rather than immediately revoking a license.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the Oklahoma Board of Nursing has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State of Oklahoma's policy to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Scott Pruitt", written over a faint circular stamp.

E. SCOTT PRUITT  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA